

As an American citizen, I call on the FCC and Congress to vigorously defend freedom of speech, freedom of the press and the principles of fairness by enforcing existing laws regulating political speech and campaign contributions. It is absolutely wrong for the Sinclair Broadcast Group to pre-empt other programming and show a partisan anti-Kerry film shortly before the election. Sinclair's decision to show their docudrama MUST be judged to be ILLEGAL by standards of balance, OR judged to be a POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION of immense magnitude. Broadcast media have been granted the right via licensing to use a community 'good' only if they also agree to meet national standards of fairness and balance in conveying political information.

That Sinclair could make such a decision and also has the potential to reach such a large audience is a prime example of the way in which media consolidations and buy-outs limit free speech in the United States.